



EVERY TUESDAY

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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PRICE THREEPENCE

The Compass Hidden in the Sand

A GREAT EXPLORER'S ADVENTURE ON THE UNKNOWN NIGER

A SMALL pocket compass, once used by Mungo Park, the Scottish explorer, has just been presented to the Glasgow Art Galleries. Lured by the mysteries of the Dark Continent, Mungo Park took this compass with him on his first expedition in 1795.

On that journey he was captured by a Moorish prince, escaped with little more than his clothes and the compass (which he had hidden in the sand) and stumbled on the great River Niger, of whose existence travellers' tales had filtered through to Europe.

Contrary to tradition, however, he found that the river flowed not east to west, but in the opposite direction. But he was not allowed to cross it. "Have you no rivers in your own country, and is not one river like another?" asked a savage chief.

Shortly afterwards Park fell seriously ill, and after being nursed by a native eventually got back to the coast, boarded a slave ship bound for America, and arrived back in this country in December 1799.

After a futile attempt to settle down to the pedestrian life of a country doctor in Scotland, he joined a second expedition to Africa, determined to make the Niger yield up its secrets.

From this expedition he never returned! Disaster followed disaster. When, in August 1805, he eventually reached the Niger, after enduring intolerable hardships, only eleven remained out of the original 40 white men who had set out with him.

Mungo Park pushed on doggedly, and his last note to reach civilisation read: "I set sail to the east with the fixed resolution to discover the termination of the Niger or perish in the attempt."

A certain mystery covers the manner of his tragic death, but it appears that, just after he had reached Boussa, a native tribe, thinking him to be connected with the slave-trade, set upon him and killed him. Later, his son Thomas, while a midshipman, tried to penetrate the mystery of his father's death but perished of fever in the attempt after travelling 200 miles inland from the coast.

So ended a glorious failure. The grand aim of Mungo Park's explorations was to discover the whole course of the Niger, but he was cut off before this could be achieved. In lifting another corner of the veil which shrouded Africa, however, his discoveries were of great value. Several of his books, such as *Travels in the Interior of Africa*, hold a high place among the classics of travel.

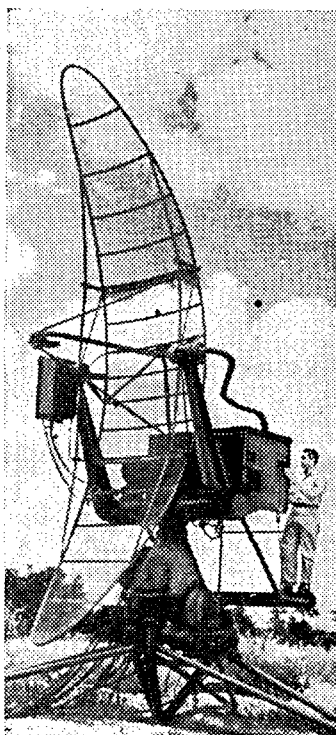
HAMPERED EAGLE

THE Inverness train from London recently carried a hamper marked "Fragile—handle with care," and containing a golden eagle.

Over three months ago this eagle was found at Brora in Sutherlandshire with its claw damaged by a rabbit snare, and was sent to the London Zoo for treatment. After treatment the Zoo authorities decided not to release it from London as it was thought that swarms of starlings and sparrows would victimise it.

So the king of the air had to submit to the indignity of a hamper for its 600-mile journey back to its old Highland haunts.

MEASURING THE THUNDERCLOUDS



"EVERYBODY grumbles about the weather," said Mark Twain, "but nobody does anything about it."

It looks as if his compatriots may be taking his words to heart at last, because this picture shows the radar apparatus which has been set up at Orlando in Florida by the U.S. Army and Navy Weather Bureau. Its purpose is to carry out research on thunderstorms. As the bow-like antenna sweeps round, the radio "echo" provides valuable data on the height, size, structure, and speed of thunderclouds.

In this region of Florida thunderstorms have been known to throw an aeroplane up or down at 4500 feet a minute.

Mining the Sea For Metal

AN INEXHAUSTIBLE SUPPLY

THE pressing tasks of reconstruction throughout the world demand that every possible source of raw materials should be exploited, and no methods are too unconventional to be neglected.

Scientists long ago showed the way to mine the air. As a result, today we are getting enormous quantities of nitrogen for industrial purposes from the atmosphere, liquid oxygen by the distillation of air, and a number of rare gases which are being used in the electrical industry. Now we read of a new source of a metal which is likely to be used on a very important scale in engineering, and it is coming from the sea!

This metal is magnesium, which is very strong, is only three-tenths of the weight of steel, and makes possible a number of new alloys which are

lighter than those of aluminium. Thirty years ago magnesium mined from the earth was 25 times more costly than today.

There is an inexhaustible supply of magnesium in the sea in the form of magnesium chloride. Millions of tons are available, and processes for extracting it from sea water are successfully dealing with the problem. In fact, magnesium is already being used for the manufacture of very light skis for next winter's sports, while such diverse things as lawn mowers, canoes, and radio towers are being constructed of magnesium alloys.

THE PROFESSOR KEPT A SECRET

ONE of the surprises of post-war days is the change-over by many of our great railway locomotives from the use of coal to that of oil as fuel.

The day will come, engineers predict, when every British train will be electrically driven, and railway coal known no more, apart from the generating stations. Electrically-driven vehicles, long promised for street use, may one day be general, too. For many years there have been in London, as elsewhere, little fleets of electric vans, swift and silent, carrying tradesmen's goods.

Had the petrol engine not come when it did, electric traction might have been common in our streets today. An electrically-propelled vehicle was whizzing through the London streets no less than 64 years ago, before the days of the motor-car. Professor W. E. Ayrton, the eminent electrical engineer and

inventor, devised an electric tri-cycle, and rode it regularly about town.

The cruising speed of the machine was nine miles an hour. Such a pace was utterly illegal, for no mechanically-propelled vehicle was then permitted to exceed four miles an hour, and a man waving a red flag had to precede it. But nobody dreamed that the silent smooth-running machine was mechanically propelled, and the wily Professor, daily breaking the law, delightedly kept the secret to himself!

HOME AGAIN



This quaint little Japanese boy is one of the four million Japanese so far repatriated by the U.S. Navy from all parts of the Far East and the islands of the Pacific.

THE LITTLE BANDSWOMAN



Margaret Rafferty is only eight, but she plays the cornet in the Town Band of Alva in Clackmannanshire. Here she is performing with the band at a Highland Games meeting near Bridge of Allan.

Mr and Mrs Albatross Come Ashore

STANDING 3 feet 3 inches high, the royal albatross is one of the largest and most beautiful of sea-birds.

A colony of these birds has been carefully watched for the past ten years by a New Zealand naturalist, Mr L. E. Richdale, their home being at the extreme northern tip of the Otago Peninsula, only about 20 miles from the city of Dunedin in the southernmost part of the Dominion.

Each year, Mr Richdale has observed, the birds returned to shore almost exactly a year after they flew away. They stay in the colony for a year for nesting duties, and the solitary egg laid by Mrs Albatross takes from 78 to 80 days to hatch. They feed their chick until it is able to fly at the age of 7½ months and then they depart to roam the ocean for a year. Thus Mr and Mrs Albatross raise only one chick every two years.

LOST AIRMEN LIVE ON COCONUTS

Two airmen, who were forced down in their Mosquito on an uninhabited island in the Gulf of Siam recently, lived on coconuts and water until searching aircraft dropped food-packs to them from the air.

The Mosquito, belonging to No 684 Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, was on a ferry flight from Rangoon to Seletar, Singapore, via Bangkok, when the pilot had to make a

landing on a desert island between Ko Chang and Ko Ma, 160 miles south-east of Bangkok.

After food had been dropped by spotting Beaufighter and Dakota aircraft, the two airmen were eventually picked up by a Siamese floatplane and flown across to Satrah Heep, where transport took them to Bangkok. The R.A.F. authorities later sent a message of thanks to the Siamese for their help.

THE TASK OF THE PEACEMAKERS

WHERE do we stand with peacemaking in Europe? Since July 29 the Conference of 21 nations has been in session in Paris, but little, as yet, has been reported that would prove the world is nearing a firm and permanent peace. Peacemaking in 1946 is not easy. But peacemaking has never been an easy job.

It was no trifle to arrange peace after the First World War. Neither was it easy to achieve peace after 1815, the last world-scale conflict in the 19th century. Bearing this in mind, let us assess the effort made since July 29.

First of all we must not forget that the Paris Conference is not dealing with the principal enemy of the United Nations—Germany. It has been decided—unlike during the first Paris Conference in 1919—to begin with the satellites, the smaller hangers-on, who marched hand-in-hand with Nazi Germany while she was victorious.

What has the Paris Conference shown so far? It is reasonable to say that there is agreement between the Allies, big and small, on a good number of points. In spite of frequent angry words, the Soviet claims for reparation from Italy and Rumania have been accepted, as were the modified French demands for the small frontier districts now in Italy. There has also been quick consent of all Powers on the disarmament of Italy.

The Future of Trieste

But on the other hand there is disagreement, serious disagreement, one could say, between the major allies over a number of very important points.

There is disagreement, for instance, about who should get Trieste—Italy or Yugoslavia? Trieste is populated mainly by Italians, but the surrounding districts are almost entirely Slovene. Both Italy and Yugoslavia have now accepted the verdict of the Big Four that the whole district should be internationalised. How-

SPEED!

By flying in his Gloster Meteor plane at 616 m.p.h., Group Captain E. M. Donaldson broke the ten-month-old world's record, also held by Britain, by 10 m.p.h.

Britain holds no fewer than five world speed records, on the land, on water, and in the air.

The liner Queen Mary won the Blue Riband for the Atlantic crossing in August 1938. Exactly a year later John Cobb travelled a mile at 368.85 m.p.h. in his Railton over Bonneville Salt Flats to set up a new land record. In July 1938 the L.N.E.R. locomotive, Mallard, created a world record of 125 m.p.h. for steam traction. Lastly, Malcolm Campbell, in 1939, established a motor-boat speed record of 141.74 m.p.h.

Young Scots Champion

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD Alan MacGregor, Watson's (Edinburgh) College schoolboy, wearing short trousers, won the Boys' Golf Championship on the Bruntisfield Links, Edinburgh, beating 16-year-old Donald Dunston, of Manchester Central High School, by eight up and seven to play.

Afterwards, Alan said he had had only seven lessons in golf in his life. He is a full-back in Watson's College Rugby XV.

ever, important gaps have yet to be filled: Who shall head the Government? How far should the inhabitants participate in the Government of the territory? How big should the area be?

As to the Italian colonies, another apple of discord, their final disposal has been postponed for a year, but there is little doubt that Italy will not get them back. Again it will still have to be decided whether they are to become independent nations or governed on behalf of the United Nations as trust territories.

The Danube Problem

Take the Balkan trade, yet another source of trouble. Britain thinks that the Balkan nations ought to be free to trade with any country in the world, and that the Danube should be opened to ships of all nations. Russia's policy is to claim special rights in trading with the Balkans, privileges which would, in fact, exclude or restrict other nations' commerce.

These are the principal difficulties which have not yet been overcome. But it is only true to say, however, that existence of agreement on a large number of clauses has claimed few headlines in our daily Press. So, on balance, it must be said that the success of the Conference is very probable and that the five treaties with Italy, Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary, and Finland will eventually be written and signed. For above the differences and quarrels between the States there is the universal desire of all peoples to secure peace and begin reconstruction work in earnest.

MOORLAND POET

AMMON WRIGLEY, who passed away recently, was not the least amongst Lancashire dialect poets. He has been styled the poet of a parish because all his 84 years were centred in the small compass of his native Saddleworth, on the western slopes of the Pennines, a few miles from Oldham but actually in the West Riding.

He went to the little school at Castleshaw until he was nine, when he became a "half-timer" in a mill. For years afterwards he was a woollen and cloth worker. His first poem, A Wayside Well, was written when he was only 12, and his reward was a "thripenny piece" from his delighted father.

He was 39 when he published The Annals of Saddleworth, and he followed this with Songs of the Saddleworth Dales, and Saddleworth Superstitions and Folk Customs which, besides valuable folk lore, contains much good dialect writing.

His two best-known works are Tales and Songs of a Moorland Parish and Wind Among the Heather, which had these pleasant lilting lines in its foreword:

*Like the wind among the heather
Just as careless and as free
Up and down this old moor parish
Let's go tramping you and me.*

Iron in the Spire

ONE of the glories of English architecture is the fine old St Wulfram's church at Grantham. We are all interested, therefore, in the repairs to its great spire which are now being carried out. The spire, 138 feet high, and mounted on a magnificent tower 132 feet high, is to have the topmost 40 feet rebuilt, because rusting iron has split the stonework. Its place will be taken by metal that cannot corrode.

Wrought iron also proved one of the worst enemies of St Paul's Cathedral. It rusted wherever installed and, expanding, fractured the masonry in which it was fixed, so endangering the whole structure. The restoration work undertaken in the Cathedral before the war involved the removal of every iron clamp and other such support; stainless steel was substituted.

It was, of course, a far greater undertaking than that at Grantham. The plan included the provision of an immense chain of steel to encircle the dome. The biggest ever produced in England of stainless steel, it measured 150 feet in length, with links each 16 feet long, and capable of resisting a pull of 30 tons to the square inch. The chain weighed over 30 tons!

Your Own CN

BEGINNING with the issue dated October 5, 1946, it will be possible for all who like the CN to obtain copies regularly each week as soon as it is published instead of having to share with others. An increased supply of newsprint will enable more copies to be printed.

PAPER is still strictly rationed, though, and supplies available will not allow newsagents to cater for chance sales. So it is still necessary for you to ask your newsagent to reserve your weekly CN. Will you please tell your friends that an order placed now will ensure regular delivery.

Befriending the Owl

OWLS have always been friends to the farmers. In the Yorkshire Craven, farmers have taken a serious view of the dearth of barn owls, and hope by next spring to have more owl houses—big wooden nesting boxes—in the tops of tall trees. Naturalists attribute the scarcity of barn owls to the disappearance of old-fashioned barns and stables, modern concrete buildings and noisy garages affording little chance for the birds to nest.

Once these tree-top houses are provided, the owls may be encouraged with their family plans and in return repay the farmer by keeping down rodents.

A New Face in Bungay

WHEN a German raider dropped bombs on the centre of the Suffolk town of Bungay nearly four years ago, blast smashed the clock-face in the graceful tower of St Mary's Priory Church.

The loss of the town clock has been felt greatly by the townspeople, but now they are happy again. Made of three-ply wood and painted white, a new face has been erected.

WORLD NEWS REEL

WELCOME! Denmark is to supply to Britain her export surplus of butter, eggs, and bacon until September 1949, under a recent trade agreement.

A Viking aircraft of the British European Airways Corporation, which left Northolt for Copenhagen, opened the first post-war air service to the Continent using British planes only.

All British troops in the Netherlands East Indies are to be withdrawn by November 30. The Dutch Authorities will take over.

DOCILE NOW. At Famagusta, Cyprus, recently, 500 German prisoners-of-war arrived before their guards. They were led to a prison camp and left there unguarded.

According to the Japanese News Agency, two Japanese whaling fleets are to sail for the Antarctic on November 7.

Bicycle rickshaws have been forbidden in Hong Kong as they are a dangerous form of "taxi" now that traffic conditions are becoming more normal.

NEW STAMPS. Next month Australia is to issue new 2½d, 3½d, and 1s stamps commemorating the centenary of Sir Thomas Mitchell's exploration in Central Queensland.

Demonstrations of radar and radio aids to flying have been given to air experts of over forty countries who were not able to follow radar and radio developments in the war. The demonstrations were at Basingstoke, Great Malvern, and Farnborough.

About 7000 British Servicemen in Germany have asked for their wives and children to be allowed to join them.

THE RIVAL! While flying over the Taurus mountains a Turkish plane was attacked by several eagles.

New Zealand's Department of Agriculture is busy with plans for raising the Dominion's dairy cow population to 3,000,000 by 1975—almost double the present number.

A new South African air line, Pan-African Air Charters, Ltd, has been formed to operate services between South Africa, the U.K., India, Australia, Palestine, and other places. The company has workshops in South Africa, London, and Cairo.

The new Canadian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom is Mr Norman A. Robertson. He succeeds Mr Vincent Massey. Mr Robertson was Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs in the Canadian Government.

HOME NEWS REEL

METAL COLLECTOR. A tame jackdaw at Harleston, Norfolk, stole the top of a holiday-maker's razor and next day returned and flew off with the ignition key of the same man's car.

Mr J. Walton, of Whitwick, Leicestershire, has just retired after working 60 years as a miner at the same colliery.

The new largest and fastest British military transport plane, the Hastings, which is to serve with the R.A.F., can be used as a military freighter, paratrooper, troop transport, ambulance, and glider tug. It can carry 25-pounder guns and 15-cwt trucks.

JUBILEE. Miss Alice Baird has been headmistress of St James's School, West Malvern, for 50 years. With her sister she founded the school at Southbourne-on-Sea in 1896.

From October 7 next seats may be reserved on certain G.W.R. expresses for an extra charge of one shilling.

The Museum of the Public Record Office, London, which contains Domesday Book, has been reopened. Hours are from one to four daily from Monday to Friday, but special times for parties can be arranged with the Secretary.

ALF'S BIRTHDAY. Alfred the gorilla at the Bristol Zoo, recently celebrated his 18th birthday. He is the oldest gorilla in captivity in Europe and weighs 33 stone.

When emergency tanks at Boras near Wrexham were drained, roach and perch up to 15 inches in length were found.

A big exhibition of British art organised by the Contemporary Art Society, is to be held at the Tate Gallery at the end of this month. The exhibits will be from provincial art galleries, the Tate, the British Museum, and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

BRIGHTER HEATHER. The Leicestershire village of Heather is to have 16 electric street lights in place of its single oil lamp.

A baker's roundsman in Emsworth, Hants, recently met a four-foot alligator on a footpath. It was a pet which had escaped from its tank and was soon caught.

The total expenditure on football pools during the 1945-46 season was apparently well over £25,000,000, state the Churches Committee on Gambling.

Miss Maureen Lees, aged 20, landed off Whitby a tunny weighing 507 lbs. She struggled with it for three-quarters of an hour.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

YOUTH HOSTEL PIONEER. The man who opened the world's first Youth Hostel, in Germany in 1912, attended the recent International Youth Hostel Conference at Loch Lomond. He is Richard Schirrmann, aged 73.

Guiding had only just started in Greece when war broke out, but the recent visit of one of the Guide International Relief Teams has fostered great interest in the movement. Now a party of Greek Guiders are paying a good will visit to Britain.

The Gilt Cross has been awarded to Patrol Leader Richard Golding, of the 1st Huntingdon

Scout Group, for saving the life of his workmate when he received a serious electric shock.

GOOD MARKSMEN. The winners of this year's competition for the Duke of Connaught Challenge Shield, open to teams of Scout marksmen, are the St Columba's 53rd Ayrshire (Largs) Scout Group, with a total of 773 points out of a possible 800.

For his gallantry in giving chase on his bicycle and stopping a runaway horse Patrol Leader Bernard Price of the 5th Erith (Kent) Scout Group has been awarded the Gilt Cross. Patrol Leader Price is fifteen.

OUR BEARDED SPORTSMEN

Fast and far speeds the good ship Stirling Castle, bearing to Australia the team that is to represent the Motherland at cricket in the great Dominion. The cricketers, although luxury on the voyage is impossible, enjoy advantages unknown to predecessors who made the voyage in days when the Australians were still our pupils on the field. They have opportunities for physical training aboard undreamed of in the old times, including a full-sized matting pitch.

The Australians will welcome a sinewy, clean-shaven body of men, every one of whom looks what he is—an athlete. The early teams from England always included representatives who, to modern eyes, would have appeared as grandfathers, men with beards! The great Dr Grace, for instance, wore a long black beard from early manhood to the end of his career.

Our kinsmen in turn sent us bearded champions from Australia. Among them was McCarthy Blackham, perhaps the greatest wicket-keeper they ever produced, the man whose skill made the long-stop unnecessary. He first stood close up to the wicket, and his bowlers always saw his beard, like a sable jungle, making a landmark just behind the top of the stumps. Times have changed indeed!

THE MIKADO IN JAPAN

GILBERT and Sullivan's famous light opera, *The Mikado*, will soon be presented at one of Tokyo's biggest theatres. In the cast and orchestra will be members of the Allied Occupation Forces as well as Japanese people. For many years *The Mikado* was banned in Japan because the authorities thought it a satire on the Japanese emperor and court.

Going to School in Germany

THE task of planning schools in Germany for the sons and daughters of Servicemen in our Army of Occupation has not been an easy one, for a few thousand British children will be living in places widely scattered throughout the Zone. In only a few localities will there be large groups of children, so in outlying parts groups will attend school on the same lines as small village schools in this country. Transport will often be used to take boys and girls to school.

Co-educational secondary schools will be established where there are enough pupils; elsewhere the older children will go to boarding schools. The children of officers and those of the other ranks are all to attend the same schools. When the schools are all in working order 300 teachers will be needed.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

SINCE May 1940 a News Letter, edited by the rector of Tarleton, in Lancashire, has regularly been published and sent to each of the serving men and women of the village so that they could be kept in touch with home.

The final number of this publication has recently been issued in the shape of an enlarged souvenir edition recording Tarleton's war record. A gradely effort, Tarleton!



A Visit to the Crystal Zoo

These amusing little models in glass have been made for the Britain Can Make It Exhibition which opens next week at Victoria and Albert Museum at South Kensington.

Twice As Fast as Sound!

BRITISH scientists are to test the behaviour of aircraft at speeds up to 1500 m.p.h. This is about twice the speed of sound and will be achieved in wind tunnels of new design.

The first of these supersonic flight tunnels will be constructed in the new £20,000,000 aeronautical research station which the Government is setting up near Bedford; it will be powered by motors discovered at a German secret research station near Brunswick.

Sir Ben Lockspeiser, Director-General of Scientific Research (Air) to the Ministry of Supply, has said that in spite of the tests we are still a long way from such speeds in actual flight.

Fish For Fliers

FISHING nets have been ordered for the use of RAF men in Japan so that they can man the fleet of small boats available and provide fresh fish for meals in the messes.

Some 2000 lbs of vegetable seeds have also been earmarked for transport by air, for distribution to Air Force stations in the Far East. At each unit men have been appointed to supervise the gardening, which will be carried out by local Japanese labour.

Squadron Leader B. Saunders of Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, is the man behind this plan to improve the diet of our airmen in this vast area.

THIS KIND WORLD

WHEN the Lord Mayor of Stoke-on-Trent visited Leasowe, Cheshire, Children's Orthopaedic Hospital, he brought back a message from the boys, "Bring Stanley Matthews."

Hearing of this, the famous outside-right of England responded, and delighted the children by going to the hospital accompanied by two other well-known Stoke City footballers, Fred Steele and Tom Sale, all taking with them a batch of signed photographs.

A Brilliant Scholar

ONE of the highest educational distinctions in the world was recently won by a British student who received all his education in state-aided schools. He is Mr Derek J. Price, B.Sc. of Leyton, and the distinction he has won is a Commonwealth Research Fellowship, tenable at Pittsburg University from this September.

Mr Price was educated at an elementary and a grammar school before he went to the South West Essex Technical College at Walthamstow where, in 1942, he obtained his degree with first-class honours. After that he carried on full-time research in physics, under the direction of Dr H. Lowery, Principal of the College, and with a grant from the British Iron and Steel Association.

It is believed that this is the first occasion on which a Commonwealth Research Fellowship has been awarded to a graduate who received all his training at a technical college.

Blind Telephone Operators

A DEVICE by which blind operators can work telephone switchboards in private exchanges has been produced by the St Dunstan's research department. The device works by the raising of a small stud—which the operator can feel with his fingers—when a call is made, and the return of the stud to a flush position when the call is finished and the line free.

The new device has been tested and approved by Post Office engineers.

Blind people will welcome the development as a new method of serving their fellow-men.

Ocean Newspaper

THE report that the daily newspaper published in prewar days aboard the Queen Mary is to appear again recalls Marconi's Transatlantic Times which appeared on the liner St Paul in 1899.

With his experimental apparatus which he had with him, Marconi was able to receive all the latest news flashed out to him from the transmitting station at the Needles in the Isle of Wight. Passengers heard with wonder the latest information on the Boer War and of the sinking of the US cruiser *Charleston*.

The Transatlantic Times was therefore the first ocean newspaper to appear with world reports.

A NEW USE FOR MULBERRY?

ALL who have visited the north coast of Cornwall will have realised the dangers to shipping off this rocky shore.

It is because of these dangers that the Cornwall County Council and the Corporation of St Ives are pressing for the provision of a harbour of refuge at St Ives, on the Land's End peninsula. The Town Clerk of St Ives puts the matter thus: "The case rests on the dangers to shipping of the precipitous coast of North Cornwall and Devon from Land's End to Hartland Point—for a century and a half described as the Sailor's Grave. In that time scores of ships and hundreds of seamen have been lost along the 100-mile stretch of picturesque but dangerous coast because of the absence of a safe harbour."

It has been suggested that parts of the Mulberry prefabricated harbours should be used for building this Cornish haven, to form a breakwater 1500 feet long; also that there should be a new and better launching site for the St Ives lifeboat.

LIGHT ON EXPORTS

A BOARD OF TRADE robot device is touring various provincial towns.

It is a machine which literally "throws light" on many aspects of our country's export drive. It consists of 24 glass-fronted panels beside which questions are printed covering many problems connected with exports. When the button beside a question has been pressed the corresponding panel giving a pictorial answer and a brief reply in words lights up.

A New Bible

AMERICA is to have a new Bible of which the New Testament has just been published. Since 1929 Biblical scholars have been at work revising the standard version of the American New Testament published 40 years ago. The American scholars believe there is a demand for a Bible in clear, simple English which should at the same time preserve all those lovely qualities which make the Authorised Version of the Bible hold its supreme place in English literature. The result is a New Testament easy to read and understand.

Here are some changes which this new Bible makes. Instead of saying "unto" it says "to," and "on" for "upon." "Enter into" is "enter." The "so" is omitted from "whosoever," "whatsoever," and "according as" becomes simply "as." All the punctuation has been modernised. All words ending in "eth" and "th" have been changed, and "thee," "thy" and "thine" have been kept only when the language is addressed to God.

Before long we hope that copies of this New Testament will be on sale on this side of the Atlantic.

WELL DESERVED

THE gallantry and devotion to duty of Miss Annie James, a 62-year-old New Zealand nurse, has won her the O.B.E.

Miss James went to China early in the war for the New Zealand Presbyterian Mission; and for five years she remained there, nursing Chinese guerrilla fighters. Not one word of English did she speak during all that time. Now she is in Sydney, and there has bought her first new clothes since 1940.



Football at Buckingham Palace

Some of the wounded soldiers who were entertained to a garden party at Buckingham Palace are here seen enjoying an impromptu game of football on the lawn.

September 21, 1946

Out For a Stroll at the Zoo

By the C N Zoo Correspondent

Now that the Zoo is fast being restocked, many surprises await the early-morning visitor.

Recently I have encountered on the pathways—enjoying a constitutional within an hour of the official opening-time of the Gardens—young elephants, camels, Shetland ponies, Husky dogs, a badger, a mongoose, and a goat.

Strictly speaking, the goat was a "fugitive." She was the famous nanny Bambi, of the Children's Zoo, who amuses visitors not only by begging for cigarette-ends (which she eats!) but by the bold way she pushes about any go-cart left unattended. But Bambi is also an expert "escapologist," and often, when no one is looking, pushes her way out through the turnstiles. On this occasion, after playing havoc in the flower-beds, she ran into a buffet, where she was trapped.

One very regular traveller on the pathways just now is Lien-Ho, the giant panda. Carefully shepherded by her keepers, the panda is escorted from her cage at the Lion House to a nice big lawn, where she spends the day ambling about and viewing her visitors with as much curiosity as they view her. Soon, however, the panda is to be provided with a young Zoo-born Husky pup who, it is hoped, will help her to feel less lonely—until the Zoo is able to get another panda.

The mongoose, Georgina, was one of the menagerie's tamer specimens, a nice, friendly little animal who can be trusted not to abuse her privileges. I found Georgina sitting outside her



Endymion the Badger enjoys a petting

house, busy with her toilet, though one noticed that she kept a weather-eye open for the approach of any sparrows.

And in the same building lives "Mr Pig," the armadillo, who so enjoys an outing that a little plot of ground is reserved for him outside the house. Here "Mr Pig" amuses himself running around and occasionally stopping to dig a hole.

The badger, Endymion, also gets much attention. Few badgers can safely be allowed out of their cages, but Endymion is different. He was found as a tiny cub and raised as a pet.

Of all the animals you may meet just now, however, none are more popular than the three baby elephants from Ceylon. They go out for exercise every morning, and when young visitors see them strolling along with their groom they clamour for rides. Few are disappointed. C.H.



To Germany in a Nursery

On their way to join their fathers in the Rhine Army are these children in the nursery of the ship which took them and their mothers from Tilbury to Cuxhaven. WVS members were in charge of them during the voyage.

HIDDEN TREASURE

A STAFFORDSHIRE motor-driver has had the thrill of finding hidden treasure. Raising a bedroom floorboard in the house to which he had newly moved, Edwin Tomkinson, of Porthill, found a stocking containing gold and notes worth £500.

Most boys dream of making some such happy discovery at some time or other; indeed the treasure-hunting instinct is latent in us all. It sends learned men with pick and shovel to excavate in ancient Greece and Rome, in the Bible lands, and in the arid wastes of Central Asia. It was this impulse that brought the little company of boy and girl students from America to help dig up bombed sites in Southwark in the hope of finding further traces of Roman London.

Some of the most romantic finds, however, have been made by people who were not treasure-seeking at all. It was but last year that a thatcher fell, without hurt, through the roof of a Somersetshire inn, to find himself in a highwayman's hiding-place of long ago. On the floor of the little room lay a rapier that one of them had carried, and in the wall was a masked cupboard where booty was stored. Then, four years ago, there was the much more profitable discovery made by two men while ploughing up a field near Mildenhall, in Suffolk. They unearthed 34 pieces of Roman silverware since valued at some £50,000!

Engineers Must Help the Farmers

IF the world is to grow all the food that it needs, in the shortest possible time, the engineer must play his part with the farmer. That is the main point made in a report of the Trade Relations Research Bureau recently issued by the World Trade Alliance Association.

To bring Europe, South and Central America, and Africa into line with areas which are already well stocked with tractors and other mechanical farm equipment, states the report, would require 2,400,000 tractors (one tractor for every 200 acres of land) and corresponding quantities of other machines. This

Of greater historical significance, however, was the haphazard discovery made last century at Danby Hall, Yorkshire, long the home of the famous Scrope family, which gave England an archbishop, a Lord Chancellor, two Chief Justices, four bishops, and four Treasurers. They were involved in much of the strife that divided Yorkist and Lancastrian, and seem to have been engaged in the plots and risings to restore the banished Stuarts to the throne.

All this had long faded from public memory when, during Queen Victoria's reign, chance led to the unveiling of a secret chamber in the ancient hall. In it were many pistols of early 18th-century make, a number of swords of the same period, each with the word "Shortly" engraved on its blade, and harness enough for upwards of 50 horses that were to have carried their riders forth to rebellion against the Crown.

It is to be hoped that the swords became ploughshares; the harness, of untanned leather, was in such excellent condition that it long served as horse-gear on the Hall lands. Unlike the Staffordshire bedroom or the Suffolk field, the mystery chamber yielded neither gold nor silver, but as all treasure-seekers know, it is not valuables alone in which the fortunate searcher finds satisfaction and delight.

total could not be met for many years to come, but the supply of 600,000 tractors in the next three years has been recommended, and is declared possible.

Great Britain during the war, and Russia since 1932, are mentioned as examples of the rapid expansion of food production due to the use of tractors and tractor-driven machinery.

The report points out that mechanisation should not reduce employment in agriculture. The operation, maintenance, and repair of 600,000 tractors, for instance, would mean the employment of 750,000 men with mechanical experience.

The Editor's Table

WITHOUT HATRED

A GERMAN given permission to come to this country is reported to have remarked on returning home that he found no hatred in Britain. He had moved among many sections of the British people and was everywhere received with kindness and understanding. It astonished him to realise that after six years in which his country had perpetuated every imaginable wrong against mankind he, a German, was received without hatred.

THIS German was not deceived by this friendly welcome. He knew that underneath the kindly exterior of the British people there was a deep and passionate hatred of the Nazi way of life. He was all the more astonished, therefore, to see that active hatred of individual Germans had no place among the British people. Instead, he met groups who were willing to talk of the future of Germany, when that land can once more take an honourable place among the nations. He met people whose eyes were turned forward to new hope rather than backward to past desolations.

The wrong of unshapely things is a wrong too great to be told;

I hunger to build them anew and sit on a green knoll apart,

With the earth and the sky and the water remade, like a casket of gold

For my dreams of your image that blossoms a rose in the depths of my heart.

Yeats, the Irish poet, wrote those beautiful lines believing that love can replace hatred, and that "like a casket of gold" the earth will again glow in splendour if its peoples carry friendship in their hearts towards one another.

WITH no hatred towards other lands it is Britain's mission now more than ever before to be a leader of the hosts of men who see that the way of hatred, vengeance, and war leads only to destruction. All who have suffered in war speak out of suffering, beckoning all men to join the crusade of world friendship and understanding.

To be without hatred is the first condition of true understanding. Hatred only puts obstacles in the way of understanding; and men who hate are "blind leaders" because, overcome with the fury and passion of their own anger, they lack the calm wisdom which should guide men in the hour of crisis.

OUR German visitor, coming to our land from the darkness that is now Germany, found his hope renewed by living for a few days with people who carried no hatred in their hearts. He relearned a lesson the whole world needs to learn—that love casts out hatred as well as fear.

Youth Seeks Adventure

IN the opinion of a writer in this year's Surrey Boy Scouts' handbook, nine-tenths of the juvenile offences in this country are due to a misguided search for adventure.

The Scout and other similar movements direct adventure into the proper channels, making this natural instinct in boys a power for good, and not for evil. We need, therefore, more and more members of such movements, and more and more leaders.

With parents lies the responsibility of encouraging their boys and girls to join youth movements. Leadership is most important. Out of the Services there are thousands of young men who have proved their leadership, and the country wants them to come forward in greater numbers to help youth.

£50,000,000

NOR always can the nation rejoice in national spending; but the setting aside by Mr Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, of £50,000,000 for the National Land Fund must have the unqualified approval of everyone in the land. For these millions are being used to keep this country green, to preserve its beauty for ever, to create national parks where the people may freely roam, and to help such guardians of our heritage as the National Trust.

Fifty million good wishes to the purposes of those fifty million pounds!

Autumn Harmony

THE day becomes more solemn and serene

When noon is past—there is a harmony

In autumn, and a lustre in its sky,

Which through the summer is not heard or seen.

As if it could not be, as if it had not been! Shelley

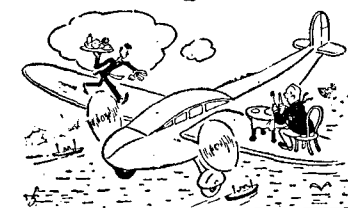
Under the F

MOUNTAIN climbers usually take a packed lunch. And have a high tea.

THE man who invented self-raising flour deserved to get up in the world.

A WRITER thinks that more women should take up the law. Perhaps they would rather lay it down.

YOU can grow to like things. Or, if you have a garden, like to grow things.



AN American airways company advertise that juicy steaks and roast turkey are served over the Atlantic. High living?

THINGS SAID

THE US must struggle patiently for the elimination of war through the United Nations, even if, at times, patience wears thin. *General Eisenhower*

THE Security Council will have nothing to do when all peoples in the world are properly fed, clothed, and housed. *Urra's Director-General*

BRITISH and Canadian boys will not grow up as citizens of a free country in a peaceful world unless they are trained to give their best to the country in peace as they did in war. *Field-Marshal Montgomery*

BRITAIN is still leading the world in radar development. *Sir Robert Watson-Watt*

THE only defence against atom bombs is the abolition of war. *Mr Bernard Baruch*

Keep Dogs Off the Road

THE statement of the Chief Constable of Lincolnshire that nearly one in every five of the traffic accidents in the county are caused by dogs calls attention to a serious aspect of the increasing hazards of our roads.

There must be few drivers, even the most careful of them, who have not experienced the sudden emergency of a dog dashing in front of their vehicles. It is instinctive to swerve or brake in such circumstances, with grave risks to pedestrians and other road users.

Most dog-owners have too much regard for the safety of their pets to allow them to roam uncontrolled in the roads; but one fifth of the traffic accidents is far too high a price to pay for the carelessness of a small minority.

Licences to drive a car or own a dog both imply responsibilities to the rest of the public.

Editor's Table

PETER PUCK
WANTS TO KNOW

How a tight-rope walker manages when things get slack



SUNSHADES have gone out. Because those who have them don't take them out.

A GIRL who took up cooking says she soon dropped into it. Hope she dropped the right things.

CHILDREN are bigger than they used to be. Possibly because they are older.

How is it that so few good films are made from novels? asks a critic. Because they are made from celluloid.

THERE are some things that should be put down, says a lecturer. Umbrellas, for instance.

Harvest Home

NEVER was there a harvest so needed as the one now drawing to a close throughout the length and breadth of Britain. Everywhere there will be thankfulness when food to fill our granaries anew comes safely home.

Our ancestors, for their part, celebrated with many quaint and happy customs the harvest homes of former days. They would, for example, dance round the last load from the harvest field, singing:

*Harvest home, harvest home,
We have ploughed, we have sowed,
We have reaped, we have mowed,
We have brought home every load,
Hip, hip, hip, harvest home.*

In northern districts a bonny lass used to cut the last handful of corn, which was fashioned into the shape of a doll, and called the Corn-baby. Elsewhere, the last sheaf, carried in the place of honour on top of the wagon, was considered to represent Ceres, Goddess of Plenty.

Then would follow the Harvest Supper, still kept up in many parts today, when the farm hands would toast their master in song:

*Here's a health to our master,
The lord of this feast.
God bless his endeavours,
And send him increase.*

Young people everywhere will regret that one particular old custom has fallen into disuse. Always at harvest time in the olden days the children, we read, were plentifully supplied with large slabs of plum cake!

MEN OF ARNHEM

IT is two years since Britain's First Airborne Division was landed at Arnhem, to put up an epic fight against the might of the German army until overwhelmed.

On the second anniversary of that never-to-be-forgotten day, September 17, 1944, a party of those gallant men, and relatives of those who fell, are making a pilgrimage to Arnhem, where they will pay homage to the fallen.

Time sweeps many memories away, but as long as endurance and courage remain qualities honoured among mankind will there be remembrance of the airborne Men of Arnhem.

Street Lighting

THE Ministry of Transport is now the central authority for the lighting of our streets, the Government having taken this step mainly to ensure uniformity in the lighting of our main thoroughfares. As people who travel the country well know, one town may have excellent lighting, while that in the next town is poor; and such differences must lead to many road accidents.

This latest move is yet another instance of an increasing tendency to co-ordinate local public services in a national way, to ensure higher standards.

A STORM OVER STAMPS

THE Falkland Islands have been in the news recently because both Argentina and Chile have been pressing their claims to ownership of the territory. Both countries, too, have made protests to our Government because the map on the Falkland Islands stamps recently issued ignores their claims.

These islands have been a bone of contention for many years, and in 1936 it was the British Government which was making diplomatic protests to Argentina for issuing postage stamps showing the Falklands as their territory. And, indeed, Britain has well-founded claims to sovereignty over the islands; their association with this country is deep-rooted.

Lying in the South Atlantic, and with their dependencies stretching well into the Antarctic, the Falklands are our Colonial Empire's Farthest South. Consisting of about 100 islands, with a total area of 6500 square miles, they are the home of two or three thousand people, most of whom are of Scottish ancestry and live mainly by whaling and sheep farming.

The Discoverers

They first came into recorded history when sighted in turn by two Elizabethan sea-dogs, their earliest names being John Davis's Southern Islands and Hawkins's Maiden Land. A little later a Dutch mariner named Sebald de Weert discovered them and named them the Sebaldines. Nearly a century later, in 1690, Captain Strong visited the islands and named the big strait between them Falkland Sound, in honour of Lord Falkland, Treasurer of the Navy, and this name has persisted for the islands themselves.

About 1750 the British Admiralty planned an expedition to the Falklands to establish a port of call there for the Navy, but the plans fell through. Meanwhile, Spain had staked a claim to the islands and quarrelled bitterly with France when parties of French settlers arrived.



Britain comes into the picture again in 1765 when Commodore John Byron sailed into a harbour in West Falkland and "took possession for His Majesty King George the Third of Great Britain." Early in 1766 a British settlement was formed there. All was quiet for a year or two. Then, in 1770, five Spanish frigates arrived and with armed force compelled the British settlers to return to England.

A stormy period followed, with skirmishes and threats of war and heated negotiations between Britain and France as well as Spain. Finally, in 1832, a British squadron arrived and hoisted the Union Jack. From that time the Falklands have remained in our possession.

Gradually the islands were colonised. Hardy Scots settled there and thrived on sheep-farming. The lonely outpost became a completely self-supporting Crown Colony—prosperous and peaceful.

A Great Battle

The Falklands crashed into history again in 1914, at the beginning of The First World War. The wife of one of the sheep farmers, hearing that strange ships were about, sent two of her maids to a headland overlooking Stanley Harbour, and received news that a German cruiser and two supply ships were in sight. As our ships, which had just arrived in hot haste from Britain, were coaling at the time and the Germans were hidden from them, the farmer's wife telephoned Admiral Sturdee. The Battle of The Falklands followed, and a German squadron was soon at the bottom of the ocean.



THIS ENGLAND The tower and porch of the famous church in ancient Cirencester, Gloucestershire

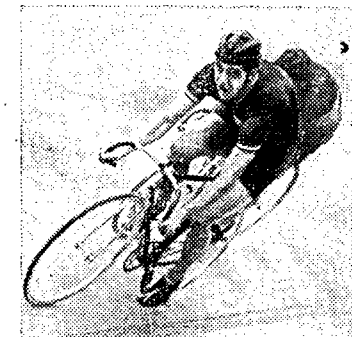
Growing-Up As a Study

MARIA MONTESSORI is a famous Italian educationalist, and at 76 is still very active. Recently she talked to teachers and students in London about the growth of man, and she put to her audience a point of view which should interest all who have the education and welfare of young children at heart.

The building-up of man, and the phases through which he lives, she said, must attract more attention, and the study must be a science. In the study of the miracle of man's growth from childhood, Madame Montessori went on, his accidents and errors should not be emphasised, but his power to be great should be. If, she said, we wished to understand men better, and to make men understand each other better, we must first understand how it was that man had been built.

Briefly, the Montessori system of educating young children is this: give children the completest possible freedom of physical movement and independence in school; watch their physical condition carefully; base discipline upon full liberty for them; and have no punishments, and no prizes.

Champion Cyclist



The World's Champion Cyclist, Oscar Plattner of Switzerland, leads his opponent round the track during the race in which he won his title at Zurich.

LEYLAND IS OUT

CRICKET lovers will miss the stocky figure of Maurice Leyland next summer, for this great-hearted left-hander has played his last match for Yorkshire.

Since his career began 28 years ago Leyland has scored more than 33,000 runs, including more than 80 centuries, and has taken 450 wickets. He has scored 1000 runs in a season 17 times, his highest individual score being 263 against Essex in 1936.

As an England player Leyland was one of the greatest left-handers of all time. In his first Test Match against Australia, at Melbourne in 1928, he scored a century; and in his last, at Kennington Oval in 1938, he got his seventh century against the Australians.

Although able to score quickly, Leyland could also defend with typical Yorkshire dourness. As an Australian Test player said: "He can put the shutters up better than any man I've ever known." His bat was likened to the side of a barn.

Now 46, Maurice Leyland ends a career that will always grace the records of English cricket.

The CN at the Cinema

At 9 o'clock of a Saturday morning the Pied Piper puts his seed to his lips in many an English town, *And like fowls in a farmyard when barley is scattering, small feet pattering, little tongues chattering*, out come the children to find him.

He waits at the cinema, writes a CN correspondent, not as of old in Hamelin in piebald gown of red and yellow, but in the stiff buttoned uniform of the commissioner at the door. There are no "early doors," and the queues are maintained by force of small arms and legs, and not without words. So, pushing, pulling, clamouring, all are at last distributed within. Some 1200 of them are there, and 1200 children cannot be expected to be still. They are not. But as they have come not to be heard but to see, they quieten down when told to do so by the manager; and at his command start the show themselves with Community singing.

That clears the air and the way for the first film, which may be a Walt Disney or anything that the children like, rather than what they ought to like, which is the keynote of the morning performance. It is prepared with painstaking skill to give its patrons what they want; not too much education, but plenty of good straightforward story.

A Varied Feast

The stories are of varied kinds. There is the serial in pictures, on the model of those which, without pictures, the BBC finds so popular in its Children's Hour; and after it follows the chosen film of the week.

The audience is quiet enough now, and quite in the humour to welcome what is designed as education. It is an extract from Our Magazine, which takes the

children to other lands than England, and artfully glides the pill of information about them. For example, Bush Christmas shows what Australia is doing at Christmas time, not only in the bush of the back blocks, but on the beaches of Sydney or among the Blue Mountains or beyond Mount Lofty, north of Adelaide.

Canada, too; they will behold it when they wait to see what happened to The Boy Who Stopped Niagara and so cut off the power which the Falls supply to light the cities and make the wheels go round at Detroit, across the US border, where the motor-cars are made. If they do not know how Canada's wheat gets into our loaf they will learn it from the film of London's Dockland.

Half-a-Million Members

Such is the programme, such the dish set before the children, and they must not be thought of as needy. They are the Coming Race, with their own clubs and their own sincipices to pay their entrance fees at the cinema's box office. Two cinema syndicates, the Gaumont British and the Odeon, enrol the members, the first in 130 clubs with a membership of 200,000, the other in 250 clubs with about 300,000 members, half a million altogether.

Thus is a new generation of enthusiastic film-goers growing up, capable of learning the lesson of how to enjoy the cinema, and—who knows?—how to improve the cinema that gives the lesson to them.

BEDTIME CORNER

Elephants Never Forget

"Jumbo," as his family called Robert, was trying hard to remember, as he sat at tea with his mother, what happened to the cuddly toy elephant he possessed when he was little and they lived in another house. He had gained his nickname from that elephant, for he used to pretend he was an elephant, too, and the toy one, "Tusker," was his brother.

He wanted Tusker now to give to his little cousin Mary, who was ill in hospital and very unhappy because she had lost her teddy bear.

But to his disappointment this afternoon Mother said: "I can't remember what happened to Tusker, Jumbo. And

our old house is to be pulled down very soon."

Suddenly, after tea, Robert remembered how, all that time ago, he had found a loose floorboard in his room in the old house and had put Tusker under it, saying it was his bedroom. He ran round to John Street, where he had not been since he was quite small. But he could not recognise their old house.

Then three men came along and one of them was Mr Brown, a builder, whom he knew.

"Hallo, Jumbo," said Mr Brown, "we're just going into your old house to see about pulling it down. Coming in?"

Inside things looked different from what he remembered. It was all dusty and deserted. He shut his eyes tight and remembered which was his room. He went upstairs to it and straight to the floorboard in the corner and raised it. Underneath was faithful Tusker—very dusty but otherwise all right.

He patted the dust from it, explaining why he wanted it.

"Fancy him remembering where it was!" exclaimed one of the men.

"Elephants never forget," laughed Mr Brown, and Robert laughed, too.



THE HARD ROAD TO CHIVALRY

Boys who join the Army today find no lack of variety or interest in their training. Warfare today is more scientific and armies are more highly mechanised than was dreamed of when their fathers fought in the war of 1914-18. Yet, although the modern course is so different, it involves no harder work or tax on memory and endurance than the training of our forefathers in England's feudal days.

The boy in France or England who would rise in what was called the Age of Chivalry began his career at 12, or earlier, as a page. In addition to school-learning, he was taught riding and the early use of little weapons, field sports, and such homely arts as carving and serving at table. Advanced to the rank of squire—midway to knighthood—he might serve his lord as valet, and, in battle, as armour-bearer. He had to be able, after removing his helmet, to turn a somersault when fully armoured, to leap on a horse by merely laying on a hand, to ply club and battleaxe for prolonged periods, to excel in running, and to make himself master of lance and sword.

Feats of Endurance

He was required to raise himself between two high parallel walls by placing his back against one and his hands and knees against the other. To scale a tower he had to climb a ladder, on the under side, mounting rung after rung without the use of feet or knees. Moreover, he was required to cast a spear or hurl a bar like any modern Olympic champion. These preparations, all with military intent, and capable of fully taxing the strength and skill of youth, were obviously the groundwork of the tremendous feats of power and endurance on the battlefield, and the hungry marches, with which the old records teem.

It is impossible that present-day training for the successors of these tough and talented ancestors of ours should prove more exacting or exhausting. Moreover, the youth of today, unlike the youth of the days of Chivalry, is spared the anguish of writing a poem to order, or singing ballads to the Colonel's wife.

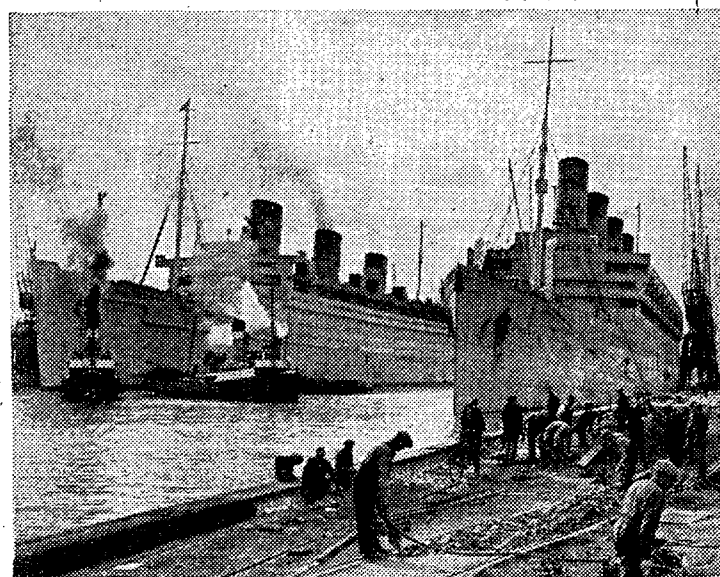
8000-Mile Radio Link

EACH night a small group of scientists in Singapore are able to exchange vital information with their colleagues in England.

Mr G. S. Garfitt, who has perfected a new radio-communications system over a distance of 8000 miles, says that his set is not really remarkable in design, although it incorporates several new features, and the contact is direct, no relay system being used.

Amateur radio enthusiasts all over the world have sent him reports of excellent reception, and one letter from California begged the scientist to disclose how he had obtained such amazing results.

Mr Garfitt, who built his transmitter in the laboratories at Singapore, gave up teaching to help the development of radar.



Busy Days at Southampton

The workmen in this picture from Southampton are repairing bomb damage to the berth of the Aquitania, 32-year-old veteran of the Atlantic, while the other side of the dock is occupied by her younger rival, the Queen Mary.

OUR ENJOYMENT IS THEIR FIRST AIM

BRITAIN'S new organisation for encouraging all forms of art in our country, the Arts Council of Great Britain, has made its first annual report.

The Council came into existence in June 1945, when the Government announced that the wartime organisation known as CEMA was to become a permanent body with a new name and a grant of money from the Treasury. In July this year the new Council was granted a Royal Charter.

How the new Council was to work was summed up by Lord Keynes, its first chairman, who died last Easter, as "Co-operation with all, competition with none." In a broadcast he said: "Do not think of the Arts Council as a schoolmaster. Your enjoyment is our first aim."

It is not intended that the Arts Council should act as an official department, setting up state theatres and art galleries, but that it should help and en-

courage everybody engaged in entertaining the public with work of artistic merit in music, the drama, exhibitions of paintings, and so on.

The Council's first report shows how splendidly it is succeeding. Up to the end of last December the Council provided, directly or indirectly, 6500 concerts, and under its auspices 68 exhibitions were shown in 229 places, while 40 companies produced more than 300 plays or ballets.

The much-discussed exhibition of pictures by Picasso and Matisse was arranged by the Council, and it was attended by 350,000 people in London, Glasgow, and Manchester. A picture exhibition of a very different sort was that of 17th-century Dutch paintings, which was seen by nearly 70,000 people.

The Annual Report costs a shilling, and it can be obtained from 9 Belgrave Square, SW1, or from any of the Council's Regional Offices.

A Rare and Lovely Creature

Too often we are reminded of the survival in our island of rare birds or animals only by the news that some of them have been killed. A recent example is the reported destruction of seven pine martens in North Wales.

The pine marten, one of the most beautiful of our native animals, has become so reduced in numbers that few naturalists can state where it still exists in our islands. In fact Mr Henry Maurice, secretary of the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire, has appealed for information as to their whereabouts in Wales, and urged that gamekeepers and others should follow the enlightened practice in Scotland and do all they can to protect these beautiful animals.

The pine marten makes its home in thick pine woods, often using the high-placed nests of hawks or crevices in rocks as its lair. As it stirs abroad only at night, it is rarely seen by human eyes.

One of the rarest of our ancient wild creatures, its lithe long body is nearly two feet long and its tail is about a foot in length. Its coat is mostly dark



brown, lighter on the cheeks and sharp snout, while on the underside of the neck it is a light yellow. Fleet of foot, the pine marten can catch a squirrel with ease, but the stories that it is a foe of poultry keepers in this country are untrue, for it lives far from human habitations.

Though it is true that the numbers have slightly increased in Wales, British naturalists fear that the pine marten will have great difficulty in maintaining its hold on life there. Hence the appeal for their protection.

NORTH SEA HARVEST Look Out For This Comet

By the C N Astronomer

RECORD catches of herrings have been made by our East Coast fishermen this summer but, unhappily, the harvest has on occasion proved altogether too abundant; the distributors, the men whose business it is to send herrings all over our country, and Europe too, were quite unable to cope with such a glut of fish. So arises the tragedy sometimes of a vast quantity of nutritious herrings being dumped back into the sea.

The herring, which often becomes the bloater or kipper of the breakfast table, is a queer fish and its habits are still something of a mystery to scientists. At successive breeding seasons it assembles with its fellows in huge shoals of millions in different parts of our coasts. In May the shoals are present off the Shetland Islands, next they are found off the Moray Firth, about August they congregate off the Yorkshire coast, and finally it is the turn of the East Anglian fishermen from Lowestoft and Yarmouth to gather in the biggest silvery harvest of all.

At these breeding grounds the

shoals of herrings have the convenient habit—from the fishermen's point of view—of making mass movements at certain times, generally at night. Then all the fishermen have to do is to hang out their nets for the herrings obligingly to swim into them. The herring harvesters steam out to sea in their drifters, and from these they lower long lines of nets attached in a train. This wall of netting hangs downwards in the water to a depth of about six feet and may be anything up to three miles long. It is allowed to drift with the tide, and is kept afloat by canvas buoys. The shoals of herrings swim into this curtain of nets without seeing it and become enmeshed in their hundreds of thousands. Sometimes a shoal strikes the nets with such force that the impact is felt on board.

Rough Times At Sea

Modern herring-fishing gear is a great improvement on that of the past when inflated dog skins were sometimes used to support the nets. In those days the fishing vessel was a deckless sailing boat, providing shelter from the cruel storms of the North Sea only under the sail. But drifters today are well-appointed steam vessels, and at some ports motor boats are used.

When a catch is landed a large proportion of it is packed with salt into barrels for export, a hundredweight of salt going to each 1000 herrings, but before being packed each fish has to be gutted by the skilful hands of the Scots fisher-girls of all ages from 16 to 60, who travel down the East coast to work at various ports during the herring season. To these hardy northern girls cleaning herrings is as easy as shelling peas.

In spite of the enormous quantities of herrings caught every season, the fish continue to assemble every year in shoals as large as ever, in the same breeding places. Fortunate indeed is this country to have such a never-ceasing abundance of tasty and nutritious food within easy reach.

Account Unpaid

A LARGE sum of money owed by the Crown to the Suffolk seaside borough of Southwold for nearly three centuries is still outstanding!

This interesting fact was revealed by Mrs Erskine Muir, Tutor in Modern History at Oxford, when she lectured at Southwold Town Hall on the Battle of Sole Bay, which was fought off Southwold on May 28, 1672. In this indecisive encounter the English and French fleets acted as allies against the Dutch.

Southwold had to receive and administer to the sick and wounded. Afterwards, the town's bailiffs wrote angry letters protesting against the cost to its citizens, which came to about £40 per day, and in one year £3000. King Charles was responsible for the money, but he never paid, and the accounts have not been settled to this day!

THE small comet known as Giacobini-Zinner is now approaching the Earth, and is expected to be at its nearest to us on or about September 20, when it will be no more than 24 million miles away.

It is possible that it may become perceptible to the naked-eye or through good glasses, so we give a star-map showing the comet's anticipated path from September 15 to 23.

The comet is travelling very rapidly southwards through the constellation of Auriga which, with the brilliant Capella, may be seen low in the north-east after about ten o'clock.

It rises higher afterwards when the chances of observing the comet will be more favourable. The absence of the Moon will be an advantage, and a good opportunity for locating the position of the comet, with the aid of glasses, will be provided by the stars Delta and Beta in Auriga.

The comet is named after Giacobini, who discovered it in 1900, and Zinner, who rediscovered it in 1913. It is one of the large family of small comets that travel between the orbit of Jupiter and the Sun's neighbourhood. This comet takes nearly 6½ years to return to near the Earth's orbit, and sometimes, as on this occasion, it comes nearer to the Earth than usual.

G. F. M.

A GATHERING OF THE CLANS

ENTHRONED amid tartan plaids and purple silk, and attended by chieftains of the Highland clans, a new bard of Scotland is being crowned in Aberdeen. This is the first time in its forty-three years of history that the Gaelic Mod is being held at Aberdeen.

The ceremony is intended to keep alive and enrich the ancient traditions of Scotland. All competitors and officials in the Mod wear tartan, and the verse compositions and songs are all in Gaelic. The climax of four days of colourful festival and song is the crowning of the bard, as in the Welsh National Eisteddfod.

That old clan feuds are not all dead is suggested by an incident that occurred at a Mod held in Dunoon some years ago. The cause of the trouble was an announcement that a prize would be given for the best original composition in Gaelic on the Massacre of Glencoe. Immediately the place was in an uproar with men and women in the MacDonald tartan shouting threats at the platform. It was that clan which suffered so grievously at the hands of the Campbells in the dreadful massacre.

GRATITUDE

WIVES of many ex-Servicemen at Leeds have a special remembrance of Mrs G. McHale, who served as a postwoman during the war. By her cheery smile and welcome message of "There's one for you," she endeared herself to them, and as a token of their appreciation they have just presented her with a lamp standard.

A KNIGHT OF THE POOR

THE last chapter in the stirring story of a poor Scot who made a fortune and used it to help the poor, is fittingly told in the bequest to the National Trust of Scotland by his widow, Lady Hamilton, who died last May, of the 8000-acre estate of Balmacara in Wester Ross.

Her husband, Sir Daniel Hamilton, who died in 1939, bought the estate after he had become rich in India.

Going out to India in the seventies of last century a poor Scottish youth, Daniel Hamilton knew what poverty was. He had seen it in Scotland and he saw it in India. He determined that if ever he had power and means he would attack poverty on the grand scale.

When fortune came to him as head of the great Calcutta merchant firm of Mackinnon, Mackenzie, Daniel Hamilton not only bought 8000 acres of his own Scotland with the hope that he might give Scottish crofters a better chance in life, but he bought 25,000 acres of swamp land in the Ganges delta to help India's peasants.

He cleared the land and built dykes to prevent floods. He formed the first group of his villagers into small co-operative societies. Every man had to work. If he was in debt Sir Daniel lent him money which he repaid gradually through the harvests of the improved rice-fields. Co-operative credit banks were opened, and soon the people were managing their own finances. The moneylenders who had long lived on the poverty of the people were driven out.

By 1916 nine hundred people were living in the villages of this Gosaba colony 25 miles from Calcutta. Today there are 15,000 in the 32 villages. One hundred miles of dykes have been built, and the 12,000 acres under cultivation is one of the finest farming areas in India.

Liquor and drink shops are forbidden in Gosaba. Sir Daniel and Lady Hamilton themselves taught in the village schools, and in every area there is a health commissioner. Imported cattle have improved the stock of Indian herds, and the rice of Gosaba is famed for its high food quality.

Sir Daniel Hamilton's campaign against poverty and bad farming in India was a pioneer experiment which many other parts of India have copied. He attributed its success to three reasons: first, co-operation, every farmer shares in the management of the colony; secondly, farmers are carefully selected and are given three years' trial in farming; thirdly, the enterprise is self-supporting.

This noble knight from Scotland gave thousands of Indians a new start in life, and now the acres of his homeland in Scotland are to pass into the keeping of the Scottish people as a haven of beauty for ever.

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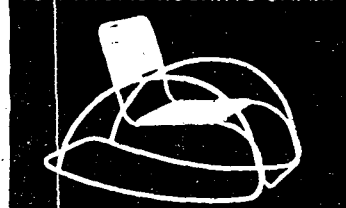
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SHREDDED WHEAT GIVES YOU MOST FOOD VALUE...
Made by The Shredded Wheat Co. Ltd., WELWYN GARDEN CITY, Hertfordshire.

THE BRAN TUB

NOT TOO LONG

THE diner gave his order, then "How long will my chop be?" he asked.

"Just about an inch and a half, sir," was the reply.

Catch Question

IF a diner went in a restaurant and ate fifteen oysters, what time would it be? *Sr/g*

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Autumn Cuckoos. On a bough overhead sat a handsome hawk-like bird. "It looks like a brown cuckoo," said Don to Farmer Gray.

"Well, that's just what it is," replied the farmer.

"But cuckoos are grey," objected Don. "Besides, it's September."

"It is a young bird," was the reply, "which accounts for both its colouring and its presence here. The adult cuckoos leave during August, but the newly-hatched birds often delay their departure until October. How they find their way to the far distant lands to which they migrate is one of Nature's mysteries."

A Poem With Only One Vowel

IPLING, I sit in this mild twilight dim,
Whilst birds in wild swift vigils
circling skim.
Light winds in sighing sink, till,
rising bright,
Night's virgin pilgrim swims in
vivid light!

Jacko Does Not Look Before He Leaps



1. Jacko greatly fancied himself as a high jumper.



2. Chimp knew what was on the other side of the hedge.



3. But did not warn Jacko, who splashed among the ducklings.

A CAREFUL FARMER

THERE was an odd farmer called Dare,

Who of all his livestock took such care

That uphill he would get

Tween the shafts, and then let

His horse ride in the cart—a sight rare!

Tongue Twister

THREE grey green greedy geese greedily feeding on a weedy piece of grey-green grass.

Other Worlds

IN the morning Saturn is low in the east.

The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at six o'clock on the morning of Saturday, September 21.



Anxious to Learn

"Do stop, Mary. You won't go to the Zoo if you cry like that."

"Well, Mummy, you must show me how I should cry, then."

RIDDLES ABOUT CHAIRS

WHEN does a chair dislike you?
When it cannot bear you.

What is the difference between a cow and a chair with three legs? *The cow gives milk, but the chair gives way (weh).*

When is a repaired chair like a bill? *When it is reseated (receipted).*

When is a chair badly treated? *When you have it caned just because it cannot support you.*

A NEW WAY WITH CHARADES

THE players divide into two groups. Then one group, after first deciding what action they will do in dumb show, go up to the other and chant:

*Here are your servants all trim and true,
Ready and willing your work to do.*

The other group in reply chant:

*First we must know your ability—
Show us your worth and agility.*

All in the first group then do whatever action they had decided

NOT AN INCENDIARY

THE by-election candidate was having a bad time with hecklers.

Then, "Sit down, you're beaten!" called a voice from the back of the hall.

"Certainly not—I'm a match for any of you."

"You flatter yourself! A match has a head."

Try This Yourself

ASK a friend what it is you can put into either hand, but he can only put into his right hand.

His left elbow.

Maxim to Memorise

SUFFICIENT dust will make a mountain.

WHY NOT?

You cannot weigh grammes with a grammar,
Nor cure sugar hams with a hammer,
Do sums with a summer,
Stew plums with a plumber,
Nor shear an old ram with a rammer.

Sew Easy

INTERLACING blanket stitch makes a pretty finish to a hem when your own or your dolly's frock has to be let down to its limit, or to hide a join should there be enough left-over pieces to add a new strip round the bottom. You could work it yourself with perhaps a little help from mother.

Do a row of blanket stitch (just "wide apart" buttonhole stitch) in coloured wool or silk around the bottom hem or along the join, spacing the stitches about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch apart and making them about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep. Then face this with another row of blanket stitching so that the outside edges of both rows are opposite and parallel and the stitches alternate and interlock.

ENTERPRISING

"SURELY I've seen you before?" said the manager. "Didn't you apply for the post last week?"

"Yes, sir."

"But I told you I wanted an older boy."

"I know—that's why I'm here today."

Kitchen Cabaret

WHEN did the currant roll?
When it saw the apple turnover.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Jumbled Butterflies
Swallowtail: White Admiral; Tortoiseshell; Purple Emperor; Peacock.

The Heirloom

£300; the two end jewels cost £140 and £60.

S	A	I	L	U	R	G	E
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E	T	H	I	C	P	U	N
D	I	A	R	Y	O	A	
C	I	S	T	E	R	N	
A	R	H	A	T	E	D	
R	A	P	E	S	S	A	
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S	E	N	T	L	A	S	S



HE'LL
NEED THAT
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smile
WHEN HE
GROWS UP

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Children's Hour

BBC programmes from Wednesday, September 18, to Tuesday, September 24

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 But Only Parrots Talk. 5.15 Regional Round.

THURSDAY, 5.0 Another "Proud Peru" story, told by Anthony Bertram; The Black Abbot (Part 5). Welsh, 5.30 The Blue Duck Goes to Africa; Jasmyrn Kell (Piano); Write Down Your Answers.

FRIDAY, 5.0 Inland Waterway—family life on Britain's canals. Scottish, 5.0 Little Daylight—a play.

SATURDAY, 5.0 Pencil and Paper.

SUNDAY, 5.0 Rushen Castle, Isle of Man—in the Castles of England series.

MONDAY, 5.0 Talk by Andre Drucker; Concert by the City of Birmingham Orchestra.

TUESDAY, 5.0 The Car Bandits; George Parker (Songs); Story told by Uncle Mac. 5.40 World Affairs—talk by Sir Ronald Storrs. Midland, 5.0 We Couldn't Leave Dinah. (Part 5); Harry Engleman and His Players. Northern Ireland, 5.40 Nature Diary. Scottish, 5.0 Grandpa Ginke—a story for the youngest listeners; The Hiccupping Ghost.

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